

## **Libraries Build Communities**

The Kentucky Public Library Association Legislative Committee has chosen the theme “Libraries Build Communities” to be their rallying cry for the 2007-08 legislative session, highlighted by a “library day” in Frankfort, February 8. On that day, public librarians, trustees and friends groups will descend on the Capital with hardhats and tools to symbolize how our public libraries are essential partners in building communities which strengthen families, improve lifelong learning and foster economic well being throughout the Commonwealth.

Over 2 million Kentuckians are registered at their local public library. These include teachers, students, parents, children, grandparents, faith communities, and government workers - people from all walks of life. Our libraries are trying to serve this large and geographically diverse population, but local resources are stretched to the maximum. Only 4 % of local library budgets come from the state while public schools receive 50.5% state support and our public postsecondary institutions receive 50%.

In order to address the needs of library users across the state, it's critical that we have a greater investment from the Commonwealth. The KPLA Legislative Committee is recommending that this investment should come as a comprehensive library budget package including the Public Library Facilities Construction Fund; the Public Library Improvement and Equalization Fund; the Library Science Scholarship Fund; and restoring cuts made in our Bookmobile program and the Kentucky Virtual Library database licensing program.

KDLA has taken these KPLA legislative priorities and incorporated them into our 2007-08 biennial budget requests in the following manner – illustrating the need and the amounts we are asking to address these needs.

**Public Library Facilities Construction Fund:** Kentucky's public library facilities are 539,718 sq ft short of minimum standard and 78 of the existing buildings are over 20 years old. As major institutions for bringing communities together, libraries need more and better space to address information driven economy and a bewildering array of educational, cultural and social challenges facing us. It would take nearly 95 million dollars just to address the minimum square foot standards shortfall. Using local government bonding capacity, we could accomplish 25% of this unmet need in the biennium with \$1 million in 2007 and \$2 million 2008.

**Public Library Improvement and Equalization Fund:** This program was established to assure quality and equity in contemporary library and information services to improve early childhood development; support lifelong learning opportunities; enhance economic development; enrich cultural resource opportunities for all Kentuckians; and, expand adult education and adult literacy programs. Although the statute became law in 2000, it has never been funded. We seek \$6 million annually to help local libraries provide the services listed above; as stated in KRS 171.201(4).

**Library Science Scholarship Fund:** Kentucky ranks 45<sup>th</sup> in the number of librarians with master's degree education. Nationally it is estimated that over 46% of librarians will retire by 2008. Clearly we need to be recruiting and educating new professional librarians for our state. To accomplish this, we are requesting a modest beginning of 10 scholarships in 2007 and 20 in 2008 at \$5,000 each in order to help Kentucky meet its growing need for a new and diverse professional library workforce. We need \$50,000 in 2007 and \$100,000 in 2008 to get this critical program started.

**Bookmobiles and the Kentucky Virtual Library:** Kentucky is still primarily a rural state and our people are spread over a broad geographic region. We need to restore funds used to continue our historic bookmobile program as well as the grants we give for access to resources in the Kentucky Virtual Library. We need \$275,000 annually to help overcome the problems of an aging bookmobile fleet. Of our 101 bookmobiles on the road today, six are over 17 years old and another 29 are between 10 and 16 years old. KYVL serves all Kentuckians, but it is a critical resource for teachers and students in our P-16 education programs. We need \$111,100 annually to restore funding cut from that program.

This entire library package would cost less than \$15 million over the 2007-08 biennium; a negligible amount in the state's multi billion dollar budget, yet it would make a powerful impact in building the kind of communities which will deliver a high quality of life and with strong educational and economic development foundations. Over 2 million Kentuckians already know how important their local libraries are and more sign up annually to take advantage of this personal and user friendly local service.

We all know how many demands are and will be made on the state budget, so developing priorities in this highly competitive environment is a challenge throughout state government. The library budget package has fared very well so far, however, with strong support from Sec. Virginia Fox and the Education Cabinet. Out of fifty programs which had to be prioritized before the cabinet budget proposal went to the Governor, five of the top KDLA budget priorities ended up in the Cabinet's top twenty; including and especially most of those in the library package.

The KPLA Legislative Committee has committed to a very positive and aggressive combination of strategic actions to advance the library package to be a positive force in building communities throughout the Commonwealth - including an initiative to create a "library caucus" pilot in the House of Representatives; an effort to solicit the Governor's support to make libraries part of his overall commitment to reading and improving education; an all out effort to get all public librarians, trustees and supporters to let legislators know how essential these services are to their communities; and the big rally in Frankfort February 8<sup>th</sup> to show how "Libraries Build Communities".

KDLA encourages everyone who knows how important public libraries are to the future of our Commonwealth to unite behind this strongest ever effort of KPLA to make library voices heard in the halls of government. With all the technology we are bringing to our communities, it's essential to remember that the public library is and will remain the town square in our global village; serving individuals and families in their own towns, on their own terms.

## **LSTA Public Library Programming Grants for FY 2005-2006**

Carroll County	<i>Carroll County Reads</i>	\$4,078
Hold book discussion groups led by volunteers countywide. The book, Hannah Coulter by Wendell Berry will be used and the author will attend the final event for all participants from different groups.		
Green County	<i>Adults in the Library</i>	\$6,750
Offer a series of workshops on genealogy, computers, living wills, health/nutrition, etc. in partnership with the county Area Technology Center.		
Clark County	<i>Appalseeds</i>	\$3,828
Provide home agriculture workshops and conferences to introduce seed starting skills and Appalachian ethno botany to 20 counties. Counties will partner with local resources to sustain and promote Appalachian agriculture.		
Daviess County	<i>Movies at the Library</i>	\$3,560
A semiweekly showing of contemporary and classic films for young adults. Series will incorporate discussions to stimulate thinking and to foster positive experiences in the library setting.		
Kenton County	<i>El Dia Celebration</i>	\$15,000
Promote bilingual literacy in partnership with local entities. Bilingual poet, Francisco X. Alarcon, will conduct workshops and immigrant families will create books and videotapes of bilingual poetry.		
Kenton County	<i>Book/Film Discussion</i>	\$2,000
Highlight books and their film counterparts. Participants will read the books; films will be shown; and book discussions will ensue to compare and contrast the two different medium styles.		
Marion County	<i>Pop! Goes the Library</i>	\$14,814
Provide after school programming with a revamped area for youth from 11 to 18. Library will implement programs and furnishings to help make the library more appealing to the said age group.		
Meade County	<i>Great Star</i>	\$5,194
Classes promoting healthy lifestyles for children in utero to 3 years; topics include nutrition, breastfeeding, yoga, CPR, toilet training, reading, and baby massaging for pregnant and new mothers.		

Ohio County	<i>The Library Palette</i>	\$5,490
Hands-on training to enrich the lives of children and young adults through artistic expression and cultural education using workshops in sculpting, painting, and in the art of theatres and plays.		

Pike County	<i>Healthy Choices</i>	\$5,000
Conduct programs on the dangers of obesity and its adverse effects. Programs will focus on nutrition, meal preparations, today's fad diets, proper diet, exercise, etc.		

Spencer County	<i>Something for Him Something for Her and Something for the Kids Too</i>	\$3,468
While events are open to everyone, each program is targeted to a specific audience; archeology and local artifacts for men, Kentucky women's rights for women; and a puppet show for the young.		

Grant recipients for Library Automation, Planning for Automation and Library Technology Innovation will be listed in the January/February 2006 issue of the Kentucky Public Library Newsletter.

## **School and Library Partnership / Live Homework Help**

Twenty Kentucky public libraries are implementing year-long projects to demonstrate the value of Live Homework Help from Tutor.com. Tutor.Com is a technology company that contracts with public libraries nationwide to provide web-based services through which individual students work in live, real-time sessions with subject area tutors. Students and tutors use web-based tools for instruction—chat room-style communication, white board technology, and hot links to sites related to the topics of tutoring. Tutors are trained teachers and graduate students with expertise in online instruction. Spanish speaking tutors are available. After each session, students are given opportunities to evaluate the service using electronic survey forms. Participating county libraries are Barren, Bell, Boyle, Fleming, Grant, Grayson, Henderson, Hopkins, Logan, McCracken, Nelson, Nicholas, Ohio, Oldham, Pike, Pulaski, Robertson, Rowan, Shelby, and Trigg.

## **Prime Time Family Reading Time©**

Kentucky Humanities Council has received a grant to implement Prime Time Family Reading Time© projects in at least five public libraries. The KDLA children's and youth services consultants will work in partnership with KHC staff to select participant libraries, organize training, make site visits, and evaluate the projects. Interested libraries completed applications in the summer, and winners will be announced before the end of the year.

## **ALA Midwinter Meeting**

The ALA 2006 Midwinter Meeting will be held in San Antonio, TX, from January 20-25, 2006. The exhibits will be held January 20-23, 2006 in the Gonzalez Convention Center, with the Ribbon-Cutting held Friday, January 20 at 5:15 pm preceding the All-Conference Reception on the Exhibit Floor from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

## **‘Cross the Commonwealth**

**McCreary County Public Library** Director Kay Morrow has been selected as one of the winners of the 2005 New York Times Librarian Award. This year only 27 librarians out of 1,200 nominations were selected. She attended the awards ceremony on November 16th in New York City to accept a check from The Times for \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque.

The **Hancock County Public Library** recently completed a renovation and relocation project for their Lewisport Branch Library to a space that previously housed the Lewisport Fire Station. With the renovation, the library moved from a facility with 888 sq. ft. to a new location which is 1800 sq. ft. This move has already proven to be a benefit to the community. Circulation has increased and the additional space has enabled the library to expand the collection in several areas including public access computers, audio books, and a larger variety of titles.



Lewisport Branch of the Hancock Public Library

The Friends of the Library raised \$1,770 for the **Lee County Public Library**, with a Chili-Soup Luncheon on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, which will be used for Library improvements.

When children are born, their future is an open book and that's just what the **McCracken County Public Library** and the Rotary Club of Paducah are hoping to encourage. For the first time ever, these two groups are joining forces to promote newborn literacy - one baby at a time. Beginning November 14-20, 2005, Children's Book Week, every baby born at Western Baptist and Lourdes Hospitals in Paducah for the next twelve months will receive a special literacy package designed to encourage the new parents to read early and often to their child. "Read to Me" bags include an Every Child Read to Read @ your library brochure, a baby board book, Curious George sippy cup, bookmark, along with library information and card applications. Western Baptist and Lourdes officials report 1,500 births a year, on average, at their facilities.

The Friends of the Library and the Board of Trustees of the **Bell County-Middlesboro Public Library** are renovating the Community Room at the Middlesboro Library with new tile, cupboards, paint and furniture.

All three branches of the **Campbell County Public Library** now have defibrillators. Library employees have taken CPR and are trained in the use of the life-saving equipment. The defibrillators were paid for with a donation from the Friends of the Library.

The **Clay County Public Library** will renovate the entrance and facade to the library.

## 2006 Calendar of Library Events

January 20-23	ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio <a href="http://www.ala.org/">www.ala.org/</a>
January 10	GCLC Reference Services Interest Group Meeting
January 19	GCLC PR Interest Group Meeting
January 26	GCLC Cataloguing Interest Group Meeting GCLC website: <a href="http://www.gclc.org">www.gclc.org</a>
January 31	Certification Annual Summations due to Regional Office <a href="http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/certification.htm">www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/certification.htm</a>
February 8	Kentucky Library Legislative Day
February 22-24	Summer Reading Workshops in Frankfort <a href="http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children/SRP-planning.htm">www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children/SRP-planning.htm</a>
February 24-25	McConnell Literature Conference in Lexington <a href="http://www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/SLIS/mcconnell/mcconference.htm">www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/SLIS/mcconnell/mcconference.htm</a>
February 28-March 4	Freedom to Read Week <a href="http://www.freedomtoread.ca/">www.freedomtoread.ca/</a>
March 2	NEA's Read Across America <a href="http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html">www.nea.org/readacross/index.html</a>
March 3-4	Prime Time Family Reading Time training at Shaker Village <a href="http://www.leh.org/primetime/PThomepage.htm">www.leh.org/primetime/PThomepage.htm</a>
March 5-7	Ohio Digital Commons for Education Conference: The Convergence of Libraries, Learning, and Technology in Columbus <a href="http://www.ohn.org/conferences/ODCE2006/">www.ohn.org/conferences/ODCE2006/</a>
March 13-17 [locations TBA]	Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library workshops <a href="http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaissues/earlylit/earlyliteracy.htm">www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaissues/earlylit/earlyliteracy.htm</a>
March 19-21	National Conference on Family Literacy in Louisville <a href="http://www.famlit.org/">www.famlit.org/</a>
March 21-25	PLA Conference in Boston <a href="http://www.pla.org/ala/pla/pla.htm">www.pla.org/ala/pla/pla.htm</a>
March 22-24	Center for Summer Learning National Conference in Baltimore: <a href="http://www.summerlearning.org">www.summerlearning.org</a>
March 22-24	Computers in Libraries Conference in Washington, D.C. <a href="http://www.infotoday.com/cil2006/">www.infotoday.com/cil2006/</a>
March 28-30 [tentative]	Library Manager's Institute at Georgetown College
March 29-31	SLA, Academic & Special Section Conference at Jenny Wiley SRP: <a href="http://www.kylibasn.org/">www.kylibasn.org/</a>
April 1-30	National Poetry Month
April 2-8	National Library Week <a href="http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=nlw">www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=nlw</a>
April 4	National Library Workers Day <a href="http://www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html">www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html</a>
April 5-7	SELA Conference in Memphis: <a href="http://sela.jsu.edu/">sela.jsu.edu/</a>
April 7-8	Southern Kentucky Book Fest in Bowling Green <a href="http://www.sokybookfest.org/">www.sokybookfest.org/</a>
April 10-16	Young People's Poetry Week <a href="http://www.cbcbooks.org/yppw/">www.cbcbooks.org/yppw/</a>

April 26-28	KPLA/KLTA Conference in Louisville <a href="http://www.kylibasn.org/">www.kylibasn.org/</a>
May 1	UFIR due to Department for Local Government <a href="http://gold.ky.gov/downloads.htm">gold.ky.gov/downloads.htm</a>
May 2	National Library Legislative Day: <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nationallibrary.htm">www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nationallibrary.htm</a>
May 16	Library Marketing – Part 1 of 2 – Bowling Green
May 17	Library Marketing – Part 1 of 2 – Lexington
June 1	FY Budget due to County Court Clerk
June 14	Library Marketing – Part 2 of 2 – Bowling Green
June 15	Library Marketing – Part 2 of 2 – Lexington
June 24-27	ALA Conference in New Orleans: <a href="http://www.ala.org">www.ala.org</a>
July [TBA]	Trustee Institutes <a href="http://kdla.ky.gov/organizations/klta/trusteemanual.pdf">kdla.ky.gov/organizations/klta/trusteemanual.pdf</a>
August 15	FY Annual Report due to Regional Office <a href="http://collect.informata.com/">collect.informata.com/</a>
August 29	File summary financial statement with the Fiscal Court
August 29	File changes, general description of service area, and names of director and trustees with term expiration dates with County Clerk
August 29	Publish names and addresses of trustees and director with summary financial statement or location of this information available to be viewed in local newspaper
September 1-30	Library Card Sign-up Month <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/factsheets/librarycardsign.htm">www.ala.org/ala/pio/factsheets/librarycardsign.htm</a>
Sept. 14–16	ALSC National Institute in Pittsburgh <a href="http://www.ala.org/ALSCTemplate.cfm?Section=ALSC">www.ala.org/ALSCTemplate.cfm?Section=ALSC</a>
September 19-22	Widening Circles VIII at General Butler SRP <a href="http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children.htm">kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children.htm</a>
September 23–30	Banned Books Week: <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm">www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm</a>
September 27-30	KLA Conference in Louisville <a href="http://www.kylibasn.org/">www.kylibasn.org/</a>
October 1-31	National Book Month
October 1	Watercraft Tax Rate due to Dept. of Property Valuation
October 1	Property Tax Rate & Property Tax Rate Certification due to County Clerk and County Judge
October 11-15	Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in Dallas <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/olos/libassocofcolor/jointconference.htm">www.ala.org/ala/olos/libassocofcolor/jointconference.htm</a>
October 15-21	Teen Read Week <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/trw/futuretrwdates.htm">www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/trw/futuretrwdates.htm</a>
Oct. 26–29	LITA National Forum in Nashville: <a href="http://www.lita.org">www.lita.org</a>
November 1	Family Literacy Day <a href="http://www.famlit.org/">www.famlit.org/</a>
November 11	Kentucky Book Fair <a href="http://www.kybookfair.com/">www.kybookfair.com/</a>
November 13-19	Children's Book Week <a href="http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/">www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/</a>

***Kentucky Public Library Newsletter*** is published bi-monthly by Field Services Division of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and your regional librarian. Correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Michael Jones. Phone 502-564-8300, ext. 214; Fax 502-564-5773; e-mail: [michael.jones@ky.gov](mailto:michael.jones@ky.gov).

**Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives**

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